

# **NEWS** from



## **Bill Postmus Supervisor, 1st District**

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### **SUPERVISORS APPROVE ANOTHER EXTENSION OF PAY, BENEFITS TO MILITARY RESERVE EMPLOYEES**

SAN BERNARDINO--The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today approved a six-month extension of additional pay and benefits for military reservist employees called to active duty.

The United States' anti-terrorism campaign has resulted in some County employee military reservists being called to active duty. Under previous labor agreements, called-up reservist County employees had a right to be paid their regular salary during the first 30 days of military duty each fiscal year. After 30 days, the employees received only their military pay, which is generally significantly less than their County pay.

On October 16, 2001, the Board of Supervisors approved labor-agreement amendments that provided a "pay differential" to the county's military employees who are activated to pay the difference between the employees' military pay and their county pay. The additional pay was approved for a period of five months. Today's Board action extended the additional pay for six months. The extension also provides the continued provision of medical and dental benefits.

There are approximately 100 county employees in the military reserve. Thirteen of them are currently receiving the extended benefits. The extension of benefits is expected to cost the county a maximum of \$316,000.

First District Supervisor Bill Postmus joined the rest of the Board in unanimously approving the extension. "It's important that we show our commitment to support our military employees, thereby supporting the war against terrorism," Postmus said. "We should encourage all employers, public and private, to do all they can to help minimize the financial sacrifice of our employees who choose to serve in our armed forces."